ROBERT M & LE T. RUDE 21301 8th Place W Lynnwood, WA 98036

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

We have taken this opportunity to write in and express our opinion of the antitrust suit against the Microsoft Corporation. We feel that this suit has been bogged down in the judicial system for long enough and it is time for the government to allow Microsoft to get back to work. It needs to continue setting the standard in the worldwide technology industry.

It is our opinion that this suit has pulled the American economy down, especially in the vital IT sector. The bottom line is, Microsoft is one of this nation's largest employers, and the perpetuation of this case during these times of economic uncertainty is imprudent. Microsoft is and always has been a great company. They have given millions of dollars to charity and have changed the way we view computers forever. Microsoft made technology accessible to Americans in a form that was usable. Without this company, there would have been no "P.C. revolution." We believe that the terms of this settlement will ensure that there are no further violations of antitrust committed by the company, especially with the establishment of a technical committee which will monitor Microsoft and prevent them from any future violations.

We are please that an end to this litigation is in sight. Please continue to support the settlement and the future of free enterprise in this nation.

Sincerely,

Robert Rude

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